

BAY AREA AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT 2 1978

939 Ellis Street

San Francisco, CA 94109

(Ted McHugh - (415) 771-6000, ext. 210)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 25, 1978

On June 1, 1978, the Bay Area Air Pollution Control District will begin using a new system for regulating open burning throughout the nine Bay Area counties. The District will be divided into two sections, a north section and a south section, with separate criteria to determine when a burn day is allowed.

The District allows open burning to dispose of farm wastes, for range improvement, forest management, and to improve wildlife and game habitat during certain seasons of the year. Such burning can only be carried out on days the District designates as "burn" days. District meteorologists determine whether or not favorable atmospheric mixing and dispersion is expected before designating burn days. However, significant differences occur in the weather patterns that effect the northern and southern parts of the District, and, in the past, the northern part of the District has been prevented from burning because of adverse weather conditions in the south.

The north section will include Marin and Napa counties, the portions of Solano and Sonoma counties within the District, and the eastern part of Contra Costa County included within the Byron-Bethany and East Contra Costa irrigation districts. The south section will include San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda County and Contra Costa County except for the Byron-Bethany and East Contra Costa irrigation districts. Two separate "burn - no-burn" forecasts will be prepared daily for each section. Forecasts for the following day are available by dialing, toll-free (800) 792-0787 (after 3 PM).

(MORE)

Beginning June 1 and ending August 31, burning of field stubble by farmers who double crop will be permitted, provided the fire official having jurisdiction has given permission.

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